

U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300  
Kansas City, Missouri, 64114-3372



# FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
CITY HALL AND COMMUNITY CENTER RELOCATION AND  
RECONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
CITY OF PALO, LINN COUNTY, IOWA  
FEMA-1763-DR-IA

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the relocation and reconstruction of the Palo City Hall/Community Center. Between June 10 and June 15, 2008 floodwaters caused the Cedar River and its tributary, Dry Creek, to overtop their banks. As a result the entire City of Palo was inundated with flood waters. FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1763-DR-IA) to provide Federal disaster assistance to the City of Palo in Linn County Iowa as a result of damages incurred during the incident period beginning on May 25, 2008 and ending August 13, 2008 (Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288).

The Proposed Action would require the relocation and reconstruction of a new Palo City Hall/Community Center at the five acre Ralston Parcel, located on the southwest corner of Blair's Ferry Road and Shellsburg Road. The new facility would be built to current codes and standards as adopted by the County of Linn, Iowa.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a DEA has been prepared to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action. The public comment period will be from May 16th to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Regional Office in Kansas City, Missouri at (816) 283-7018. The DEA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm>. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. The DEA will then be moved to the archives page at [http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives\\_index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm).